



2012 Final Waterfowl Rule Summary

(NRB approved Aug 8)



Most of the waterfowl season dates for 2012 are the same as 2011 adjusted for the calendar shift. One important change proposed by duck hunters during the public involvement process was a Monday through Friday closure to the duck and goose seasons from November 5-9 in order to extend the end of the north zone duck season for late season hunting to November 25. According to harvest data about 90% of the duck harvest in the north zone is over by November 1. This change came from those passionate duck hunters still hunting in November. Some hunters will be excited about this change while others have concerns over the closed days in early November. We can evaluate this season and decide next year if hunters wish to continue with this change.

Early September Canada goose season – September 1-15, with a daily bag of 5 geese.

Youth Waterfowl Hunt - September 15-16. The daily bag is the same as the regular seasons.

Ducks

60 Day Season – Daily bag of 6 ducks in total. Of the 6 ducks, no more than: 4 mallards of which only 1 may be a hen, 3 wood ducks, 1 black duck, 2 redheads, **4 scaup**, 2 pintail, and 1 canvasback. In addition, 5 mergansers to include not more than two hooded mergansers. (For species of duck not listed such as teal and ring-necks, the combined total with all other species may not exceed 6 ducks). Coot daily bag of 15.

*Opening day shooting hours will begin at 9am.

Northern Zone: Sept 22 – Nov 4, Nov 10-25

Southern Zone: Sept 29- Oct 7, Oct 13- Dec 2

Mississippi River Zone: Sept 22- 30; Oct 13- Dec 2

Canada Geese –

Exterior Zone: Daily Bag of 2. Season has been extended by 7 days for 92 days total.

- North - **Sept 16-Nov 4, Nov 10-Dec 21**
- South - Sept 16 – Oct 7, and Oct 13 – Dec 21
- Mississippi River Subzone: Sept 22- 30; Oct 13- January 3

Horicon Zone:

- H1- Sept 16 – Oct 28
- H2- Oct 29 – Dec 16

Daily Bag of 2. 6 Tags per hunter.

Light geese, brant and white-fronted geese - Light geese (Snow, Blue and Ross) and Brant: Seasons are the same as for the Canada goose zones and subzones. Daily Bag Limit: 1 brant and 20 light geese. The open season for White-fronted geese begins on September 20 for the Exterior (north and south) and the Horicon zone and then follow the same dates as for Canada geese in those zones. In the Mississippi River subzone of the Exterior zone the White-fronted goose season does not open until September 26 and then follows the same dates as those for Canada geese in that subzone. Daily Bag Limit: 1 white-fronted goose.